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Date: January 12, 2009	Client & Matter Number: 021756-061900US	No. Pages (including this one): 8
To: Examiner Harish T. Dass	At Fax Number: (571) 273-6793	
From: Naya M. Chatterjee-Marathe		
Message: Re: Application No. 09/912,848 Second Proposed Amendments to the Claims		

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PATENT
Attorney Docket No.: 021756-061900US
Client Ref.: OID-2000-069-01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Kim Powell et al.

Application No.: 09/912,848

Filed: July 24, 2001

For: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR
IMPLEMENTING AUTOMATIC BID
STATUS REFRESH AND ITEM
ATTRIBUTE UPDATES IN AN
ELECTRONIC EXCHANGE

Customer No.: 51206

Confirmation No. 6014

Examiner: Harish T. Dass

Technology Center/Art Unit: 3692

SECOND PROPOSED AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants thank the Examiner for his phone call on Monday, January 12, 2009. Per the Examiner's instructions, enclosed herein are Applicants' second proposed amendments to the claims, assuming that the amendments filed in the previous response (dated 10/24/2008) have been entered, and assuming that the proposed amendments faxed to the Examiner on January 9, 2009 have not been entered. The following proposed amendments may be entered via Examiner's Amendment.

Proposed Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.

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Proposed Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) [[An]] A computer-implemented auction method, comprising the steps of:

receiving, by an exchange server, user selectable update configuration information from remote bidders via a distributed computer network, the update configuration information including a user selectable time interval for receiving bid status updates, wherein the time interval is selected through a graphical user interface of a browser, and wherein the exchange server includes a computer readable memory and a processor;

adjusting the time interval for the update configuration information dynamically as the auction is conducted;

conducting, by the exchange server, an auction wherein bid information received from the remote bidders is compared to determine a bid status and wherein the bid status is used to determine the bid status updates for the remote bidders;

disseminating the bid status updates to the remote bidders via the distributed computer network in accordance with the update configuration information; and

designating an auction winner at the conclusion of the auction in accordance with a most competitive bid of the bid status, wherein the steps of receiving, adjusting, conducting, disseminating, and designating are performed by a computer.

2. (Original) The method of Claim 1 further including the step of:

accessing a specification for an item for the auction, the specification for the item provided by the seller.

3. (Original) The method of Claim 1 further including the step of:

specifying initial conditions for the auction, the initial conditions including an allotted time for the auction.

4. (Canceled)

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5. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1 wherein the time interval for the update configuration information allows the remote bidders to receive the bid status updates automatically in accordance with the time interval.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Original) The method of Claim 1 further including the steps of:
changing a specification for the item for the auction dynamically as the auction is conducted; and

disseminating the changed specification for the item to the remote bidders via the distributed computer network in accordance with the update configuration information.

8. (Original) The method of Claim 1 further including step of:
storing the update configuration received from the remote bidders at an exchange server host to enable the providing of the bid status to the remote bidders.

9. (Original) The method of Claim 1 wherein the distributed computer network is the Internet.

10. (Previously Presented) A machine-readable storage medium storing a sequence of instructions, execution of which causes a processor to provide bid status updates to auction participants in an auction conducted via a distributed computer network, the execution of the sequence of instructions causes the processor to perform the actions of:

accessing a specification for items for the auction;
accessing initial conditions for the auction, the initial conditions including an allotted time for the auction;

receiving user selectable update configuration information from remote bidders via a distributed computer network, the update configuration information including a user selectable time interval for transmitting bid status updates to the remote bidders, wherein the time interval is selected through a graphical user interface of a browser;

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adjusting the time interval for the update configuration information dynamically as the auction is conducted;

conducting an auction wherein bid information received from the remote bidders is compared to determine a bid status and wherein the bid status is used to determine the bid status updates for the remote bidders;

disseminating the bid status updates to the remote bidders via the distributed computer network in accordance with the update configuration information; and

designating an auction winner at the conclusion of the auction in accordance with a most competitive bid of the bid status.

11. (Canceled)

12. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable storage medium of Claim 10 wherein the time interval for the update configuration information causes the server to transmit the status updates to the remote bidders automatically in accordance with the time interval.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable storage medium ~~method~~ of Claim 10, wherein the execution of the sequence of instructions further causes the processor to perform the actions of:

changing a specification for an item for the auction dynamically as the auction is conducted; and

disseminating the changed specification for the item to the remote bidders via the distributed computer network in accordance with the update configuration information.

15. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable storage medium of Claim 10, wherein the execution of the sequence of instructions further causes the processor to perform the actions of:

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storing the update configuration received from the remote bidders at an exchange server host to enable the providing of the bid status to the remote bidders.

16. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable storage medium of Claim 10, wherein the distributed computer network is the Internet.

17. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable storage medium of Claim 10, wherein the execution of the sequence of instructions further causes the processor to perform the actions of:

accessing a specification for an item for the auction, the specification for the item provided by the buyer.

18. (Currently Amended) [[An]] A computer-implemented auction method, comprising the steps of:

receiving, by an exchange server, user selectable update configuration information from remote bidders via a distributed computer network, the update configuration information including a user selectable time interval for receiving bid status updates, and wherein the exchange server includes a computer readable memory and a processor;

conducting, by the exchange server, an auction wherein bid information received from the remote bidders is compared to determine a bid status and wherein the bid status is used to determine the bid status updates for the remote bidders, wherein the time interval is selected through a graphical user interface of a browser;

disseminating the bid status updates to the remote bidders via the distributed computer network in accordance with the update configuration information;

adjusting the time interval for the update configuration information dynamically as the auction is conducted and in accordance with a new user selection;

changing a specification for the item for the auction dynamically as the auction is conducted;

disseminating the changed specification for the item to the remote bidders via the distributed computer network in accordance with the update configuration information; and

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designating an auction winner at the conclusion of the auction in accordance with a most competitive bid of the bid status, ~~wherein the steps of receiving, conducting, disseminating the bid status updates, adjusting, changing, disseminating the changed specification, and designating are performed by a computer.~~

19. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 18 further including step of: storing the update configuration received from the remote bidders at an exchange server host to enable the providing of the bid status to the remote bidders.

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REMARKS

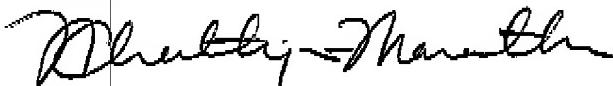
Per the Examiner's suggestion, Applicants have briefly considered MS Outlook and U.S. Pat. No. 5,247,438 (Subas et al.).

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,



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